

The Norwich Museum have also acquired two specimens of *Scops lempiji*, which were received by Mr. Whitely from Sumatra, and which are larger than those from other localities in the same collection, as will be seen by the following measurements of examples which (with one exception) are all preserved in the Norwich Museum :—

	Wing. inches.	Tarsus. inch.	Middle toe, s. u. inch.
Six from Malacca, Penang, and Singapore	5·50–6·60	1·10–1·50	·70–·90
Three from Borneo	5·70	1·30	·70–·80
One (female) from Java . .	5·70	1·20	·70
First Sumatra specimen . .	6·90	1·50	1·0
Second ditto	7·10	1·60	1·10

The two Sumatran specimens are also more thickly plumed on the tarsus and at the base of the toes than any of the others; in coloration they exhibit a medium intensity of tint between the lightest and darkest examples in the Norwich Museum, but I do not perceive in them any peculiarities of marking.

XLVI.—On a new Thrush from the Loyalty Islands Group.

By E. L. LAYARD, C.M.G. &c., and H. B. TRISTRAM, F.R.S.

IN our previous paper on the birds of the Loyalty Islands (Ibis, 1878, p. 254) we mentioned that a Maré lad in the service of Mr. W., of Chephenché, Leopold Layard's kind host during his residence on Lifu, affirmed, when giving the Maré name of the new blackbird (*Turdus pritzbueri*, L. & T.), that the Maré bird differed from that species, and was "all black." The lad was so persistent and precise in his statement, that E. L. L. lost no time in writing to a friend on the last-named island, requesting him to do his utmost to send him a specimen in alcohol, as he knew no one on the island could skin it.

On the 3rd of June last he had the pleasure of receiving from his friend a neatly packed basket of cocoanut-leaf, from which he abstracted a bottle, snugly embedded in fern-leaves.

The moment he withdrew the latter from its nest he exclaimed, "Another new Blackbird!"

We propose to designate it after the island of which it is native; and we will now describe and compare it with *T. pritzbueri* and *T. vanicorensis* of Samoa, to which latter it is most closely allied.

TURDUS MAREENSIS, sp. nov.

Male. General colour very dark smoky brown (almost black), precisely the tint of *T. vanicorensis* of Samoa. Here and there on the underside the feathers of the body show traces of a paler colour on the edges. A palish brown patch (very indistinct) from the back of the eye to the nape (this is quite wanting in *T. vanicorensis*). Upper surface of back almost (in some lights *quite*) jet-black. Lower centre of belly and over vent a patch of white and red-brown feathers; these same colours extend down the centre of each feather of the under tail-coverts. This at once distinguishes it from *T. vanicorensis*, in which these parts are immaculate, and the shafts of the tail-feathers are dark, whereas in the new bird they are very light*. Eyelid and bare space about eye yellow; bill yellow, with orange tip; legs and feet very light bright yellow. Length 7" 3^m, wing 4", tail 3", tarsi 1" 2^m, bill 1" 2^m (broader than in *T. vanicorensis*, but this may be caused by the dry state of the latter).

From *Turdus pritzbueri*, *T. marensis* differs in being a much "slimmer" (slighter) bird (this peculiarity at once struck us and caused our exclamation), being very much darker in general colour, in the coloration of the vent and under tail-coverts, the paler legs and darker bill, and the *concolorous head and breast*. Of course to our other known species, *T. xanthopus*, it has no resemblance.

It is curious that these two islands, so near together (Lifu and Maré), should each possess its own peculiar species of Blackbird, differing entirely from the New-Caledonian species, while Tanna, so much more distant, should have one identical with Lifu. In habits, our native informant said, the Maré

* Cf. Tristram's remarks on *Turdus vanicorensis* (Ibis, Apr. 1879, p. 188).

is similar to the Lifu bird, frequenting the dense bush, and visiting the deserted native plantations at certain seasons, while, equally with it, it was extremely shy and difficult of approach.

Of the female we have yet no knowledge; but we trust our kind correspondent, to whom we are sending a jar of alcohol, will soon be able to fill up the hiatus.

XLVII.—*On a new Hawk of the Genus Urospizias, Kaup, from Bouru.* By T. SALVADORI, C.M.Z.S.

UNTIL quite recently only one specimen of the genus *Urospizias*, Kaup, from Bouru, had reached Europe. This was a young one obtained by Mr. Wallace, and mentioned by him first as *Accipiter cruentus*, Gould*, and afterwards as *Accipiter torquatus*, Cuv.†, he having rightly recognized that Gould's species was the same as that of Cuvier. The same specimen has been more recently assigned by Mr. Sharpe to his *Astur wallacii*, from Lombock‡. Having myself seen the specimen in the British Museum, I was rather inclined to follow Mr. Wallace's opinion, and, with a query, I have included Bouru among the localities inhabited by *Urospizias torquatus*§.

Towards the end of 1878 Mr. Sharpe, having just paid a visit to the Leyden Museum, wrote to me about a new *Astur* from Bouru, of which the Leyden Museum had quite lately received a fully adult specimen, and which would be described by Prof Schlegel as a *new species*.

I was anxiously looking for the description of the new Hawk, when I received from Prof. Schlegel his "Notes from the Leyden Museum," where, under the head of *Nisus rufitorques*, among many other unjustly rejected species, I found mentioned and described the fully adult Hawk from Bouru||.

The description being unsatisfactory and incomplete, I wrote to Prof. Schlegel asking for a more full one, which he

* P. Z. S. 1863, p. 22.

† Ibis, 1868, p. 11.

‡ Cat. B. i. p. 128 (1874).

§ Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen. xii. p. 38. n. 28 (1878).

|| I. p. 2 (1878).